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EXAMINER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/726,253	PATTON ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Yuzhen Ge	2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>07 May 2007</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-36 and 42-44</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-36 and 42-44</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>02 December 2003</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

Examiner's Remark

Applicant's response to election/restriction requirement, filed on May 7, 2007, has been

received and entered into the file. According to the response, Group I (claims 1-36 and 42-44) is

elected without traverse.   Claims 37-41 are canceled and claims 1-36 and 42-44 are pending.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-13, 15-17, 19-20, 22-30, 32-36, 42 and 44 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sasaki (US Patent 5,959,672).

Regarding claim 1, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute of

a predetermined region of a motion picture frame comprising:

(a) providing metadata associated with the motion picture frame, said metadata defining

the predetermined region of the frame (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col.

56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61); and

(b) applying a calorimetric transform to pixels within the predetermined region,

modifying the at least one colorimetric attribute thereby (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20,

lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61).

Regarding claim 2, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one calorimetric attribute

according to claim 1 wherein said predetermined region comprises an area having a flesh tone

(col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61).

Regarding claim 3, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute according to claim 1 wherein said predetermined region comprises an area having a hair color (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61).

Regarding claim 4, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one calorimetric attribute according to claim 1 wherein said predetermined region comprises an area having an eye color (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61).

Regarding claim 5, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute according to claim 1 wherein the step of providing metadata comprises the step of providing coordinates within the motion picture frame (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61).

Regarding claim 7, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute according to claim 1 further comprising the step of displaying the motion picture frame having said modified at least one colorimetric attribute (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines

27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61, inherent from H.261 that once the video

signal is decoded and corrected, it will be displayed, Fig. 55).

Regarding claim 8, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute

according to claim 7 wherein the step (b) of applying the colorimetric transform is done during

the step of displaying (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22,

Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61, the step of decoding can be regarded as part of the step of displaying,

Fig. 55).

Regarding claim 9, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute

according to claim 1 wherein the step of applying a colorimetric transform comprises the step of

conforming within predetermined limits for flesh tones, said predetermined limits specified in

said metadata (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-

11, 10, 16, 56, and 61, the template is regarded as the predetermined limits).

Regarding claim 11, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute

according to claim 1 further comprising the step of storing the motion picture frame that was

modified by applying the colorimetric transform to pixels thereof (col. 17, lines 1-12, col. 18,

lines 20-31, col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11,

col. 17, lines 1-12, inherent from H.261 that the motion picture frame is stored in the decoder).

Regarding claim 12, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute according to claim 11 wherein the step of storing is performed at a motion picture exhibition site (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61, the decoding site is regarded as the motion picture exhibition site, it is inherent that decoded picture is stored either in memory or buffer in order to be displayed, col. 9, lines 35-45, Fig. 55).

Regarding claim 13, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute according to claim 1 wherein the motion picture frame is one of a set of consecutively displayed motion picture frames and the modification generated in step (b) is obtained by applying the calorimetric transform to pixels within the set of frames (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 55-56, and 61).

Regarding claim 15, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute according to claim 1 wherein the colorimetric transform is applied to pixels within the whole motion picture frame (col. 51, lines 35-45, col. 53, lines 24-36, col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61, color correction is applied to pixels within the whole picture).

Regarding claim 16, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone in a set of consecutively displayed digital motion picture frames to provide a modified flesh tone, the method comprising, for each frame in the set:

(a) obtaining image data for the frame (Figs. 1-11);

(b) identifying at least one area in the frame having the original flesh tone (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 55-56, and 61);

(c) applying a calorimetric transform to said at least one area to modify the original flesh tone over said at least one area and obtain the modified flesh tone (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 55-56, and 61); and

(d) incorporating image data for the modified flesh tone into the frame, forming a modified frame thereby (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 55-56, and 61).

Regarding claim 17, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone according to claim 16 further comprising the step of displaying said modified frame (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61, inherent from H.261 that once the video signal is decoded and corrected, it will be displayed, Fig. 55).

Regarding claim 19, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone according to claim 16 wherein the step of identifying each area in the frame having the original flesh tone comprises the step of forming a bit-mapped mask for at least one said area (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61,the binary templates is the bit-mapped mask).

Regarding claim 20, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone according to claim 16 wherein the step of identifying each area in the frame having the original flesh tone comprises the step of providing a set of positional coordinates for at least one said area (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61).

Regarding claim 22, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone according to claim 16 wherein the step of identifying each area in the frame having the original flesh tone comprises the step of applying a skin tone recognition algorithm to said image data (col. 4, lines 1-4, col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61).

Regarding claim 23, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone according to claim 16 further comprising the step of storing said modified frame (col. 17, lines 1-12, col. 18, lines 20-31, col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, col. 17, lines 1-12, inherent from H.261 that the motion picture frame is stored in the decoder).

Regarding claim 24, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone according to claim 23 further comprising the step of storing said modified frame at a motion picture exhibition site (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61, the decoding site is regarded as the motion picture exhibition site).

Regarding claim 25, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone according to claim 16 further comprising the step of transmitting said modified frame to an exhibition site (col. 1, lines 17-33, col. 2, lines 6-19, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61, the decoding site is regarded as the motion picture exhibition site).

Regarding claim 26, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone according to claim 16 wherein the step of identifying said at least one area in the frame having the original flesh tone comprises the step of applying at least one of a skin tone algorithm or a facial recognition algorithm to said image data (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61)

Regarding claim 27, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute of a predetermined region of a motion picture frame comprising:

(a) preparing a master motion picture frame having said predetermined region (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61, the motion picture frame is regarded as a master motion picture frame);

(b) generating metadata identifying said predetermined region (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61);

(c) transmitting said master motion picture frame and said metadata to an exhibition site (col. 1, lines 17-33, col. 2, lines 6-19, col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61, the decoding site is regarded as the motion picture exhibition site); and

(d) applying a colorimetric transform at the exhibition site to pixels of said master motion

picture frame within said predetermined region, thereby modifying the at least one colorimetric

attribute (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16,

56, and 61).

Regarding claim 28, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute of

a predetermined region of a motion picture frame according to claim 27 further comprising the

step of displaying a modified master motion picture frame (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-

26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61, inherent from H.261 that once the

video signal is decoded and corrected, it will be displayed, Fig. 55).

Regarding claim 29, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one calorimetric attribute of

a predetermined region of a motion picture frame according to claim 27 wherein the step of

preparing a master motion picture frame having metadata comprises the steps of

    (a) identify said predetermined region by processing a master motion picture frame and

generating said metadata identifying said predetermined region (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55,

lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61); and

    (b) associating said metadata with said master motion picture frame (col. 54, lines 27-31,

col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61).

Regarding claim 30, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute of

a predetermined region of a motion picture frame according to claim 29 wherein the step of

processing said master motion picture frame comprises the step of applying a recognition

algorithm to said pixels of said master motion picture frame (abstract, col. 1, lines 10-15, col. 2,

lines 6-10, col. 6, lines 36-40, col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines

1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61).

Regarding claim 32, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one calorimetric attribute of

a predetermined region of a motion picture frame according to claim 27 further comprising the

step of storing the motion picture frame that was modified at the exhibition site (col. 17, lines 1-

12, col. 18, lines 20-31, col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22,

Figs. 1-11, col. 17, lines 1-12, inherent from H.261 that the motion picture frame is stored in the

decoder).

Regarding claim 33, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone in a set of

consecutively displayed digital motion picture frames to provide a modified flesh tone, the

method comprising:

(a) processing said set of consecutively displayed digital motion picture frames to

generate metadata identifying areas having the original flesh tone (col. 18, lines 20-31, col. 54,

lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, col. 17, lines 1-12,

Fig. 55);

(b) transmitting, to an exhibition site, a master motion picture comprising said set of

consecutively displayed digital motion picture frames and said metadata (col. 1, lines 17-33,

col. 2, lines 6-19, col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 55-56, and 61, the decoding site is regarded as the motion picture exhibition site);

(c) Receiving said master motion picture and said metadata at said exhibition site (col. 1, lines 17-33, col. 2, lines 6-19, col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 55-56, and 61, the decoder receives the master motion picture and said metadata); and

(d) applying a colorimetric transform to said set of consecutively displayed digital motion picture frames, according to said metadata, to modify said areas having the original flesh tone, forming a modified set of consecutively displayed digital motion picture frames thereby (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 55-56, and 61).

Regarding claim 34, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone in a set of consecutively displayed digital motion picture frames according to claim 33 further comprising the step of storing said modified set of consecutively displayed digital motion picture frames (col. 17, lines 1-12, col. 18, lines 20-31, col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, col. 17, lines 1-12, inherent from H.261 that the motion picture frame is stored in the decoder, Fig. 55).

Regarding claim 35, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone in a set of consecutively displayed digital motion picture frames according to claim 33 further comprising the step of substituting said set of consecutively displayed digital motion picture frames into

said master motion picture to form a modified motion picture (col. 17, lines 1-12, col. 18, lines

20-31, col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, col.

17, lines 1-12, inherent from H.261 that the motion picture frame is stored in the decoder, Fig.

55).

Regarding claim 36, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying an original flesh tone in a set of

consecutively displayed digital motion picture frames according to claim 33 wherein the step of

applying said colorimetric transform is performed during display of said modified motion

picture (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16,

56, and 61, the step of decoding can be regarded as part of the step of displaying, Fig. 55).

Regarding claim 42, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one attribute of an object

confined to a predetermined region of a motion picture frame, said method comprising:

    (a) providing metadata associated with the motion picture frame, said metadata

defining the predetermined region containing the object (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20,

lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61); and

    b) applying a transform to pixels within the predetermined region, thereby modifying the

at least one attribute of the object whereby the object is treated differently relative to other

objects in the frame (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22,

Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61).

Regarding claim 44, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one attribute of an object as

claimed in claim 42 wherein the object is a face (col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-20, lines

27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11, 16, 56, and 61).

2.   Claims 1, 6, 10, 14 and 42-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

Rai et al (US Patent 6,337,692).

Regarding claim 1, Rai et al teach a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute of

a predetermined region of a motion picture frame comprising:

        (a) providing metadata associated with the motion picture frame, said metadata defining

the predetermined region of the frame (Figs. 2, 5-12, col. 4, lines 60-66, col. 5, lines 10-20);

and

(b) applying a calorimetric transform to pixels within the predetermined region,

modifying the at least one colorimetric attribute thereby (col. 5, lines 22-49, col. 8, lines 1-36,

Figs. 2, and 5-12).

Regarding claims 6 and 10, Rai et al teach a method for modifying at least one colorimetric

attribute according to claims 1, and 16. Rai et al further teach step of applying a calorimetric

transform comprises the step of applying a look-up table and the look-up table is specified as

metadata (Figs. 8 and 12).

Regarding claim 14, Rai et al teach a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute

according to claim 13. Rai et al further teach wherein objects persist from one frame to the next

and the modification generated in step (b) is applied consistently across the frames to the same

objects (abstract, col. 7, lines 53-67, col. 8, line 1-col. 9, line 8).

Regarding claim 42, Rai et al teach a method for modifying at least one attribute of an object

confined to a predetermined region of a motion picture frame, said method comprising:

(a) providing metadata associated with the motion picture frame, said metadata

defining the predetermined region containing the object (Figs. 2, and 5-12, col. 4, lines 60-66,

col. 5, lines 10-20); and

b) applying a transform to pixels within the predetermined region, thereby modifying the

at least one attribute of the object whereby the object is treated differently relative to other

objects in the frame (col. 5, lines 22-49, col. 8, lines 1-36, Figs. 2, and 5-12).

Regarding claim 43, Rai et al teach a method for modifying at least one attribute of an object as

claimed in claim 42 wherein the transform modifies the sharpness of the object (col. 4, line 60-

col. 5, line 9).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   Claims 18, 21, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Sasaki in view of Rai et al (US Patent 6,337,692).

Regarding claim 18, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute

according to claim 16. However he does not explicitly teach the step of applying a calorimetric

transform comprises the step of applying a look-up table and the look-up table is specified as

metadata. In the same field of endeavor Rai et al teach step of applying a calorimetric transform

comprises the step of applying a look-up table and the look-up table is specified as metadata

(Figs. 8 and 12). It is desirable to efficiently perform color correction. Color correction by look-

up-table is well known in the art and it is known to be efficient compared with given a function

and evaluating a function each time a correction is performed and also in some cases, analytical

expression for the correction may not be known. Therefore it would have been obvious to one

of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of invention, to applying a calorimetric transform

comprises the step of applying a look-up table that is specified in a metadata so the transform is done efficiently.

Regarding claim 21, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute according to claim 16. However he does not explicitly teach wherein objects persist from one frame to the next and the modification generated in step (b) is applied consistently across the frames to the same objects. In the same field of endeavor, Rai et al teach wherein objects persist from one frame to the next and the modification generated in step (b) is applied consistently across the frames to the same objects (abstract, col. 7, lines 53-67, col. 8, line 1-col. 9, line 8). It is desirable to efficiently perform color correction (col. 2, lines 1-24, col. 4, lines 36-46 of Rai et al). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of invention, to apply modification consistently across the frames to the same objects wherein objects persist from one frame to the next.

Regarding claim 31, Sasaki teaches a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute of a predetermined region of a motion picture frame according to claim 27. However he does not teach wherein the step of applying a colorimetric transform requires an operator selection from a plurality of available calorimetric transforms. In the same field of endeavor, Rai et al teach a step of applying a colorimetric transform requires an operator selection from a plurality of available calorimetric transforms (Figs. 2, and 12, col. 3, lines 38-50, col. 5, lines 2-9, col. 8, lines 17-36, col. 8, lines 58-64). It is desirable to implement color correction without imparting color artifacts into video images to perform color correction according to user's requirement (col.

1, lines 20-35). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of invention, to apply a colorimetric transform requires an operator selection from a plurality of available calorimetric transforms so that the color transform is performed according to user's requirement without imparting color artifacts into the video images.

4.   Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rai et al (US Patent 6,337,692) in view of Sasaki (US Patent 5,959,672).

Regarding claim 27, Rai et al teach a method for modifying at least one colorimetric attribute of a predetermined region of a motion picture frame comprising:

(a) preparing a master motion picture frame having said predetermined region (Figs. 2, and 5-12, col. 4, lines 60-66, col. 5, lines 10-20, col. 8, lines 1-16, the selected frame is the master motion picture frame, e.g., Fig. 5 from the frames in Fig. 2);

(b) generating metadata identifying said predetermined region (Figs. 2, and 5-12, col. 4, lines 60-66, col. 5, lines 10-20, col. 8, lines 1-16);

(d) applying a colorimetric transform at the exhibition site to pixels of said master motion picture frame within said predetermined region, thereby modifying the at least one colorimetric attribute (Figs. 1-2 and 5-12, col. 4, lines 60-66, col. 5, lines 10-20, col. 8, lines 1-16). However they do not explicitly teach transmitting said master motion picture frame and said metadata to an exhibition site. In the same field of endeavor, Sasaki teaches transmitting said master motion picture frame and said metadata to an exhibition site (col. 1, lines 17-33, col. 2, lines 6-19, col. 54, lines 27-31, col. 55, lines 5-26, lines 27-44, col. 56, lines 1-22, Figs. 1-11,

16, 56, and 61, the decoding site is regarded as the motion picture exhibition site). It is

desirable to transmit multimedia content for business development (col. 1, lines 17-33 of

Sasaki). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of

invention, to transmit a master motion picture frame and its metadata to an exhibition site so

that it can be used in the exhibition site depending on the need of the application.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Yuzhen Ge whose telephone number is 571-272 7636. The

examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on 571-272-7453. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated

information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Yuzhen Ge

WENPENG CHEN   Examiner

PRIMARY EXAMINER   Art Unit 2624